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TO:	NAME AND ADDRESS	DATE	INITIALS
1			
2			
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4			

	ACTION		DIRECT REPLY		PREPARE REPLY
	APPROVAL		DISPATCH		RECOMMENDATION
	COMMENT		FILE		RETURN
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NOFORN-	Not Releasable to Foreign Nationals
NOCONTRACT-	Not Releasable to Contractors or Contractor/Consultants
PROPIN-	Caution-Proprietary Information Involved
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Attachment to Z-14200/83

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NPIC/IEG (9/83)

16 SEPTEMBER 1983

NEW TRACKED ARMORED VEHICLE CHASSIS AT PERM
USSR (SWN)

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1. SIGNIFICANCE: PERM ARMT A MSE A RAND PLANT 172 IS DEVELOPING A NEW SELF-PROPELLED MORTAR FOR AIRBORNE UNITS. (SWN)

2. REMARKS: A NEW TRACKED ARMORED VEHICLE CHASSIS HAS BEEN IDENTIFIED IN THE SHIPPING YARD AT PERM

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THE HULL DECK. A REVIEW OF PREVIOUS IMAGERY SHOWS THAT A SMALL NUMBER OF APPARENTLY IDENTICAL CHASSIS HAVE BEEN IN THE SHIPPING YARD SINCE MAY 1982 SUGGESTING THE VEHICLE IS UNDER DEVELOPMENT OR FINAL ASSEMBLY AND PRODUCTION AT PERM. (SWN)

ANALYST'S COMMENTS -- PERM HAS HISTORICALLY PRODUCED ARTILLERY SYSTEMS, AND HAS BEEN SERIES PRODUCING THE BMD M-1981/2 AIRBORNE SELF-PROPELLED (SP) ARTILLERY SYSTEM SINCE MID-1981. THE NEW CHASSIS COULD BE USED AS A MORTAR FOR AIRBORNE FORCES. IT IS SMALLER THAN THE STANDARD BMD-1 AIRBORNE ARMORED FIGHTING VEHICLE AND THE BMD M-1981/2. THE OPENING IN THE HULL IS POSSIBLY A FIRING PORT. TWO U.S. MORTAR CARRIERS, THE M106A1 AND THE M125A1, HAVE SIMILARLY POSITIONED OPENINGS. THE U.S. SYSTEMS ARE MODIFIED M-113 ARMORED PERSONNEL CARRIERS WITH TURNTABLE MOUNTED MORTARS IN THE REAR OF THE HULL. TO FIRE THE MORTARS, THE HATCH COVERS OVER THE OPENING ARE PULLED BACK, AND THE MORTAR IS ELEVATED AND ROTATED ON THE TURNTABLE FOR FIRING. THE NEW CHASSIS AT PERM MIGHT BE INTENDED FOR A SIMILAR PURPOSE (MORTAR) SINCE A GUN TURRET LOCATED NEAR THE REAR OF A VEHICLE THIS SIZE WOULD PROBABLY BE UNSTABLE WHEN FIRED. (SWN)

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3. COORDINATES 58-02-07N 056-18-02E (S)

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